About our Honorees

So many incredible individuals have supported BAVC over the past four decades. Of the hundreds of potential honorees, we decided that we should pay special tribute to those people and institutions who were integral to launching programs and forging key partnerships that are still part of BAVC’s DNA today.

Pamela & Richard Kramlich, Co-founders of New Art Trust and new media art collectors
Since the Kramlichs began collecting electronic art in 1992, they have expanded their comprehensive collection to include some 300 works by more than 60 international artists. In 1997 they founded the New Art Trust with the goal of advancing media arts through the support of research and scholarship in the field. The Kramlich’s financial and personal support of BAVC’s Preservation program put it on the map, and also provided the funding to completely upgrade BAVC’s preservation digitization suite in 2000. Because of the Kramlich’s initial support, BAVC continues to meet the evolving preservation challenges posed by magnetic media, and continues to ensure that the legacies of media artists, dancers, poets, musicians, choreographers, and myriad community organizers, activists and others will be preserved for future generations of audiences.

The Honorable Willie L. Brown, Jr., Mayor of San Francisco (1996-2004)
When Mayor Brown came to BAVC in 1998 and asked if we could provide workforce development solutions in digital media, we jumped at the chance. With seed money from the Mayor’s Office of Community Development, BAVC established a formal video internship program and, riding on the success of that endeavor, one year later BAVC partnered again with the Mayor’s office — along with the Department of Labor — to create MediaLink. MediaLink was an immersive, web design boot camp which placed 500 low-income individuals in jobs at the completion of their training. Twenty years later, and in the midst of a second “digital gold rush,” BAVC continues to expand its workforce offerings and partnerships, including those with the City of San Francisco, offering new possibilities for unemployed and underemployed individuals.
of all backgrounds. Now with the support of the San Francisco Office of Economic and Workforce Development, BAVC’s tech and media training continues to thrive and serve those who wouldn’t otherwise have the opportunity to work at some of the Bay Area’s fastest growing companies.

**Howard Klein, Director of the Arts, the Rockefeller Foundation (1967 - 1986)**

It is not an understatement to say that without Howard Klein’s stewardship during his tenure as Director of the Arts, at the Rockefeller Foundation, BAVC would not exist. Klein’s curiosity and advocacy helped shepherd many groundbreaking experiments in video and the broadcast arts, connecting media makers to new resources, local institutions, and to one another. It was Klein who heard the common call from Bay Area artists, activists, and citizen journalists for greater access to the still-new medium of video, synergizing that shared interest through funding the feasibility study that would eventually lead to BAVC’s formation. Mr. Klein’s belief that portable video was something that everyone should have access to in order to tell their own stories is still the core of BAVC’s mission and services today.

**Roberto Esteves, founding BAVC member**

Back in the ‘70s Roberto Esteves was an early adopter and advocate for video. In addition to being a founding member of BAVC, and eventually one of its early Presidents of the BAVC Board, Roberto also worked as a media librarian for the San Francisco Public Library’s then-burgeoning VHS collection, a connection which remains in BAVC’s current, multiple partnerships with the City’s library. He is now Executive Director of Friends of Villa Grande, a group dedicated to preserving and protecting Villa Grande, a historic Craftsman-style property located in Patterson Point Nature Preserve in western Sonoma County.

**Institutional Honorees**

**The National Endowment for the Arts** has supported BAVC for almost all of its 40 years, and was the first government funder of BAVC’s work in 1977.

**The San Francisco Public Library’s** main Civic Center branch was where the founding members of BAVC held meetings that led to its very formation. And today, BAVC offers free coding training weekly at the Main, partners with the teen center, The Mix, to offer video training, and collaborated with the library at Bayview Hunters Point to make the documentary, Point of Pride, which has screened at festivals internationally.

**Adobe Systems** has been a long-time supporter of BAVC, offering event space and screening venues for BAVC’s activities and programs, social media expertise, AdobeTV collaborations, Train-the-Trainer grants to provide K-12 educators a chance to get tech savvy at BAVC, software launch celebrations for the BAVC community and, of course, donating and discounting their software (even when they were Macromedia!) to make it possible to offer training in the
latest industry-standard software. A strong partnership for almost two decades made it possible for BAVC to train both youth and teachers free of charge -- programs that are still an integral part of our work.